

MONMOUTH COUNTY CRS USERS GROUP

Thursday, July 16, 2020 @ 10am

WebEx

1) Welcome & Attendance

- Thank you to everyone who was able to attend
- Attendance sheet attached

2) County Updates

Joe Barris/Bridget Neary, Monmouth County Division of Planning

- Regional PPI opportunity through New Jersey Coastal Coalition – kickoff meeting was April 21st
 - PPI meeting to follow @ 11:45am
 - Please take PPI survey
 - Contact Bridget if you would like to be added to the PPI group
- County was awarded 125k LEAP Challenge Grant from DCA for CRS management software for municipalities. This will not cover the entire cost, so county is looking at alternative funding sources. No timeline, but will keep the group updated on progress.
- Monmouth County GeoHub can be accessed at gis-monmouthnj.opendata.arcgis.com/
- Monmouth County Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed and submitted to the State for review. The State has submitted to FEMA and is awaiting comments.

3) Partner Updates

Garrett Byma, ISO

- Re-certifications are still scheduled as usual. Will be out September 1st and due back October 15th
- Cycle verifications are being done virtually via conference call. Garrett will contact those with upcoming verifications
- No new CRS manual coming out in 2021, but there will be an addendum in January 2021
 - Will change pre-requisites for some activities
 - Class 8 pre-requisite: 1 foot of freeboard for residential structures in AE/V with BFE
 - Procedure change: no longer required to submit ECs for Activity 310 for cycle verification. Will be done on annual basis with recertification. 90% correctness on yearly basis. Will be given full 38 point EC credit.
 - Additional credit will be available for substantial damage tracking and planning
 - Recommend signing up for CRS newsletter which will highlight important changes
 - Check for CRS webinars
- No ABFE credits after May 1, 2023. If you have questions about point loss and how to make up some of the points contact Garrett. Current ABFE points are recorded on the verification report.
 - Consider notifying residents of potential for increased rates due to loss of ABFE credit.

Rebecca 'Becky' Jones, NJDEP

- Grant with FEMA to do compliance assistance – 2021 deliverables
 - Working on guidebook for floodplain administrators
 - Model permits
 - Model ordinance
 - Substantial damage plan
 - Training sessions
 - Newsletter

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- New CRS credits for local substantial damage plans
 - Developing BMPs. Looking for volunteers to provide input
- Supreme Court decision related to a developer in Hoboken who was given land use permit prior to Superstorm Sandy. Hoboken updated their floodplain ordinance post-Sandy, but since project was approved pre-update the land use permit and site plan approval stood. Supreme Court ruled that floodplain maps and ordinance are zoning related and under municipal land use law. Would be ideal if NFIP was authorized by statute.

Other Counties

- Mark Villinger, Ocean County – Next CRS User Group meeting will be joint Monmouth-Ocean meeting on September 17th
- Virginia Michelin, Morris County – Next CRS User Group meeting will be August 11th with a presentation on the Morris County Hazard Mitigation Plan which should be submitted to the State next week. Meeting with Forerunner to discuss options for Morris County. Trying to get a presentation from Apex, who specialize in flood research.
- Nick Tufaro, Middlesex County – Would like to host a virtual resiliency summit in late September or early October. Will be asking for content submissions. Hoping to get Middlesex CRS website up. Currently working on Hazard Mitigation Plan that includes CRS discussions and preventative planning. Several upcoming planning initiatives for Middlesex that will be asking for comments from neighboring counties.

3) Guest Presentation 1 - Don Bain, Climate Central

- Informed the group of release of the NOAA [2019 State of U.S. High Tide Flooding with a 2020 Outlook Report](#) released this week. NOAA July 14, 2020 press release entitled "[U.S. high-tide flooding continues to increase](#)" and discussed graphs depicting sea level rise relationship to high tide water levels and flooding frequency.
- Overview of Climate Central and Coastal Risk Screening Tool
- Presented and demonstrated Climate Central's Portfolio Analysis Tools (PAT). See attached presentation
- Climate Central can do a PAT workshop for your town. To learn more contact dbain@climatecentral.org or kvanbaalen@climatcentral.org
- Don also shared the following links:
 - Climate Central's Coastal Risk Screening Tool (Map): coastal.climatecentral.org
 - Climate Central map view as shown during the meeting (Monmouth area): https://coastal.climatecentral.org/map/15/-73.9831/40.3123/?theme=sea_level_rise&map_type=year&contiguous=true&elevation_model=best_available&forecast_year=2050&pathway=rcp45&percentile=p50&return_level=return_level_1&slr_model=kopp_2014

5) Guest Presentation 2 - Camille Graham, Risk Reduction Plus Group

- Camille discussed FEMA TB-1 – “Requirements for Flood Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures” released March 2020 – includes comprehensive tables that provide summaries and comparisons of IBC and NFIP standards, enhanced guidance on the placement of flood openings, explanation of how to document openings on ECs. More user friendly than previous document.
- New NFIP rate changes released in April 2020. Rate increase sheet attached. Risk Reduction Plus is offering community outreach to help homeowners mitigate to reduce premiums. Will be doing a

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national outreach in August. Date TBD. Also offer complimentary flood insurance evaluations for homeowners.

- Recommended ordinance enhancements (attached)
- Contact Camille if you are interested in outreach for your community

6) Announcements

- Congratulations to Neptune on moving up to Class 5 rating
- Congratulations to Keansburg on 2020 Best Restored Beach Award from American Shore & Beach Preservation Association
- Welcome to Vanessa Dornisch, the new Coastal Training Program Coordinator at Jaques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve. Lisa Auermuller is still at the JCNERR and will still be involved, but Vanessa will be our new liaison from JCNERR.
- Many upcoming CRS Webinars <https://crsresources.org/training/>
- NJAFM 2020 Conference cancelled. 2021 conference will be held October 26-28, 2021.
- NJAFM weekly webinars, news, and announcements: <https://www.njafm.org/>
- First Street Foundation recently released a new risk analysis tool that has been getting a lot of press. <https://firststreet.org/>ASFPM put out a statement and talking points regarding First Street's tools. In summary, ASFPM stated that the tools should be used for general planning and risk identification and are not intended to replace FIRMs and should not be used for regulatory purposes. The talking points are posted on the county CRS webpage under "Happenings"
- Bridget will be taking over managing the Monmouth County CRS Assistance Program next year
- Monmouth County CRS webpage is updated monthly with new technical bulletins, news, guidance documents, trainings, and more. Thank you to Kaitlyn Peterson, Account Clerk for the Planning Board, for helping us to keep the website updated. Check under the "Happenings" section on the home page for recent additions. <https://www.visitmonmouth.com/page.aspx?ID=4248>

Next CRS User Group Meeting will be held on September 17th, 2020

This will be the third annual Monmouth/Ocean joint meeting!

Time and location TBD.